



COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABILITY

MEETING DATE: Monday, August 31st 2026, 2:00-4:00 pm via Zoom

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Michael Schmeltz, Jennifer Sanchez Biederman, Sharon Radcliff, Asha Rao, Ying Guo

Not Present: Juleen Lam, Patty Oikawa

Guests:

 Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgment for Cal State East Bay_Public

Short Version:  Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Land Acknowledgment for Cal State University East Bay ...

1. Rotating secretary [sign-up](#)

Members asked about using AI to take notes. Michael likes to take notes via text, but others may experiment with AI note-taking as well. Jennifer asked about AI note-taking in the past. Sharon mentioned that this was a Senate discussion, particularly around AI use and environmental issues, and we as a committee may want to consider those implications in our own use as well.

2. Approval of the [agenda](#) - Sharon moves to approve the agenda, Ying seconds. Passed. (All Y).
3. Welcome new members and introductions
 - a. Juleen Lam, Public Health; ES at-large
 - b. Michael Schmeltz; Public Health; SULO (26-28)
 - i. Vacancies
 1. 1 CLASS (26-27)
 2. 1 Lecturer (26-27)
 3. 1 COH (26-28)
 4. 1 CSCI (26-28)

ASI working on getting a student member as well.

4. **Reports:**
 - a. Report of the Chair
 - i. Prior CS Chair's [annual report 25-26](#)

‘Uncomfortable’ classroom survey is an outstanding item. What are some things we can do with the survey? Will need to consider this for this AY.

Will take a look at that and other items that may be carried forward this AY.

- ii. Shared governance, culture setting, and a proactive orientation for this committee

[Link](#) to policies and procedures.

- b. Report of the SULO
 - i. SULO Work Completed 24/25 and 25/26

Sharon will get this to us by next meeting.

- c. Report of the Campus Sustainability Manager; Presidential Appointee

No formal report, but Jennifer expanded upon her role and interests.

5. Business:

- a. None at this time

6. Discussion:

- a. Other ideas and initiatives for AY 2026/27
 - i. Review of Sustainability courses - having a sense of what topics are being discussed (to what extent) and developing a list of topics for inclusion?
 - 1. Support learning about recent solar installations on campus?

We had a brief discussion/brainstorm:

**Asha mentioned doing field trips with faculty (and/or students) to have them engage in practical learning of sustainability in business operations.
Thinking maybe early November or late October.**

Jennifer mentioned providing more information about our campus gardens and ecological sustainability. Also updating the campus sustainability website to provide more resources for students/faculty/staff.

The AY25/26 Climate change/heat in classrooms - Mark A. in facilities may be a good resource to speak about responsible as well as Risk Management.

Jennifer has partnered with the CSU Chancellor's Office about a potential podcast episode - we could help find a speaker.

Michael will come up with a list including new items and prior AY25-26 items to keep track of through AY26-27.

- b. Other priorities discussed during AY 2025/26
 - i. Advocacy for sustainability on campus, in departments
 - 1. Effects of climate Change increased heat on classrooms: Create policy or survey see Chair's report 24-25 above for detailed background.
 - ii. Consider: [draft resolution on the Environmental Impact of AI](#). (from last year)
 - iii. Supporting the minor
 - iv. Continue work on Campus as a Living Lab
 - v. Entrepreneurship hub
 - vi. From Academic Senate: Review WSCUC [standards of accreditation](#), [summary letter](#), and [final report](#). Let SOs know how your SC could contribute in prep for the special visit.
 - vii. Take a look at [2028-34 Academic Calendars](#) and note any concerns or suggestions from your SC. President Sandeen noted that it is possible in the future there may be a common calendar between the SFBRN universities or the whole system. Comments are still encouraged so that feedback can be provided to whichever level develops calendars.
 - viii. Review 2-3 older or commonly cited policies to review using the questions in [24-25 FDEC 3](#) and update as needed.

7. Adjournment **at 3:00pm**